

RECORD

July 15, 2006

In this issue

"Unseen" success
for youth

Adventists plan
tobacco summit

A more complete
"report card"



"Charlie" in his heyday of mission flying at Marimuni airstrip, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea.



Video libraries to network

Adventist Aviation farewells "Charlie"

GOROKA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

After 28 years of faithful and tireless service to the church and the community in Papua New Guinea, 'Charlie' has left us," says Pastor Roger Millist, chief executive and chief pilot of Adventist Aviation Services in Papua New Guinea.

The "Charlie" to whom Pastor Millist refers is a Cessna 206 aeroplane, affectionately given the name after being registered in 1978 as P2-SDC, "Sierra Delta Charlie."

During the past 28 years "Charlie" accumulated an impressive service record, travelling more than four million kilometres over some of the most inhospitable ter-

rain in the world, playing a crucial role in the growth and nurture of the Adventist Church in PNG.

"He" witnessed and participated in the establishment and growth of thousands of churches in remote and inaccessible areas, transported thousands of pastors and laymen to plant and nurture those churches and personally delivered the building materials for more than 1000 churches, schools and clinics.

"He" carried hundreds of doctors, nurses and teachers and saw many schools and clinics established to serve some of the most

(Continued on page 4)



Different media are simply tools to be used by individuals to make contact with others.

It's about people

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST REACTION when you hear the word *witnessing*—paralysis, nervousness or excitement? For many of us, our first reaction is nervousness. Do you have a *Signs* run and wait till the cover of darkness to letterbox them? Do you get embarrassed when people ask you about your faith or are you uncomfortable about saying grace when you eat in public?

The common element of these reactions is the focus is inward, rather than outward. I wonder why this is. It may be the fear of rejection or it may be reservation of being associated with something unpopular, or that we just don't know how to do it.

The Australian soccer team has been on everyone's lips in the past month because of their historic progress in the World Cup. I haven't met anyone who was embarrassed or coy talking about the Socceroos—even with total strangers on the street.

These two different reactions highlight the way we connect with people. Whatever we have in common is easy to talk about, but move into areas of divergence and the awkwardness factor increases. This is why media of different types have made a marked impression on the way we connect with people.

As a church, we have invested heavily in media and have been at the forefront in adapting as trends change. We have had a lot of success with *Search*, the 20-episode series that contains our message of hope. And we have just completed production

of a world-class series, *The Code*, which is an intelligent use of the interest that *The Da Vinci Code* has created in spiritual matters.

However, the purpose of these productions is not to be ends in themselves. Different media are simply tools to be used by individuals to make contact with others. Media—whether electronic or print material—are often seen as neutral by a casual onlooker. Miracles rarely occur by just delivering media to people.

I am reminded of a well-known statement by Ellen White: "Christ's method alone will bring true success . . ." (see *The Ministry of Healing*, page 143). One of the essentials in her formula is winning the confidence of people before we invite them to follow the Saviour. Winning the confidence of people in our sceptical age is more difficult—and increasingly difficult the closer you get to the heart of the city.

When a person from another faith contacts you with a desire to win you to their faith, how do you respond? It is probable you would not even entertain the idea of attending, let alone joining their church or religion. It is exactly the same for the wider community with regard to them joining our church. In a bid to connect with different segments of the population, different types of media have been created.

For example, the different ministry DVDs produced by Adventist Media have different target audiences. *Chasing Utopia* is geared to the postmodern, secular per-

son, aged about 30. *Who is Jesus* is targeted to a person of age 35, who is sympathetic to Christianity. *The Search* is targeted to a person of middle age, sympathetic to Christianity. *The Code* is targeted to a postmodern, secular woman, aged 35. The audience you want to reach will determine the type and style of media you use.

And there is a strategy to our method of sharing this material. We are often asked, "Why do you have the episodes on so many different discs? Couldn't you put them on fewer discs? It would be more efficient and cost effective."

The answer is yes, we could, but there is an important reason why we make as many discs as possible. In following Christ's method, we need to win the confidence of people. In order to do that you need to meet and mix with them on a regular basis. The more often you visit them with a loan DVD, the more chance you have of gaining their confidence and winning them to Jesus.

Adventist Media is a vital ministry of the church. We believe we have an essential work to do and by God's grace we want to make a wider impact. Your generosity in giving to the Media Evangelism Offering next week (July 22) will assist us in continuing our work and play a part in fulfilling the gospel commission, given to us by Jesus Himself.

Bob Bolst, Adventist Media


Official Paper of the South Pacific Division Seventh-day Adventist Church
ABN 59 093 117 689
www.adventist.org.au
Vol 111 No 27
Cover: Adventist Aviation Services

Editor Nathan Brown
Senior assistant editor David Edgren
Editorial assistant Adele Nash
Editorial assistant Scott Wegener
Copyeditor Graeme Brown
Editorial secretary Meryl McDonald-Gough
Layout Nathan Chee
Senior consulting editor Barry Oliver

www.record.net.au

Mail: Signs Publishing Company
3485 Warburton Highway
Warburton, Vic 3799, Australia
Phone: (03) 5966 9111 Fax: (03) 5966 9019
Email Letters: editor@signspublishing.com.au
Email Newsfront: record@signspublishing.com.au
Email Noticeboard: editorsec@signspublishing.com.au
Subscriptions: South Pacific Division mailed within Australia and to New Zealand, \$A43.80 \$NZ73.00. Other prices on application. Printed weekly.

Our vision is to...
know
experience
and **share**
our hope in Jesus Christ!

Video libraries networking online

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

Adventist Media ministries has activated their online video library (OVL) that churches with their own library and/or website can get involved with.

The site <www.videolibrary.com.au> serves both Australia and New Zealand, delivering VHS and DVD formats, and also provides the opportunity to purchase the videos online.

Previews of video titles are available for visitors to download and sample and then, just a couple of clicks later, the title of their choice will be ordered for delivery to their door.

Requests will come via email to Adventist Media and be redirected to the closest church with that video in their own library for delivery—in the same way that responses from TV advertising are presently serviced.

The first 20 titles available on the OVL are from the *Search* video series and plans are underway to include the 27 titles from the *Digging Up the Past* series.

“The online video library can only offer videos that all local churches have in their church video libraries,” says Pastor John Gate, media ministry director for Adventist Media. “But there are other ways

churches can get involved with this video library ministry.”

All churches in Australia and New Zealand with a local church website are invited to link into Adventist Media’s OVL. A free graphic banner can be provided for placement on a church website. (Email Sue to request the OVL banner <sue@amcdiscovery.com.au>).

Local churches that not only have a website but also have their local church video library listed online can also utilise Adventist Media’s OVL. A menu where visitors can find a local church’s online video library and click through and see what other titles they have to offer, has also been set up on the OVL. “Most local churches probably have a much larger catalogue of videos than our OVL currently has,” says Pastor Gate. “Getting a link from our OVL to your church’s online video library should increase community interest in your library.”

Churches with their own online video library service are invited to forward the



Adventist Media ministries have launched an online video library that will allow churches to access Christian videos with greater ease.

name of their church and online video library URL to Pastor Gate—<johngate@amcdiscovery.com.au>—and a link will then be created from Adventist Media’s OVL to your local church’s online video library.

“Most churches have a library of some magnitude and more and more churches are developing their own websites,” says Pastor Gate. “It’s a great idea to include the catalogue of the library on the church website as a way to connect to your local community.”—**Scott Wegener**

More @ www.videolibrary.com.au

◆ **Larry Evans** (pictured, second from right), the undersecretary of the General Conference, visited the Western Australian



Conference over the weekend of May 20-23. **John Beck** (left), the Aboriginal ministries coordinator, accompanied Pastor Evans as he got acquainted with **indigenous work** at Meekatharra, Wiluna, Karalundi and Mamarapha College. “I have had my eyes opened culturally and am really glad that the church is committed to making the Adventist message relevant in an

indigenous outback setting,” says Pastor Evans. “I would encourage you to continue to **explore ways in art and ceremony** from the local culture to make the Adventist message have real impact.”—**NewsWest**

◆ After more than 40 years and nearing the age of 85, **Les Jackson**, known affectionately as “**Mr 5-Day Plan**,” is calling it quits as a “Quit Now” presenter. He has conducted programs all over NSW, into Queensland and even in Vanuatu.

◆ **Dandenong church**, Vic, having been filled beyond capacity, has **bought 3 hectares** (7.5 acres) of land in Hampton Park on which

to build. The project will include a church with facilities for Sabbath school classes, Pathfinders and a sporting venue. Stage 2 plans include a child-care centre. There will be seating for some 800 people, with the ability to **expand to 1200 seats**. Set in parklands, the project is hoped to be completed during 2007. The majority of funds for the project will come from subdivision of the acreage.—**Intraviv**

Having run **more than 560 quit smoking and drug-education programs**, Mr Jackson now wants a new generation to catch the vision to help others give up. **Pastor Larry Laredo**, former Greater Sydney Conference health director, says, “He was unique. He gained the respect of so many and reached into the lives of so many. When you help someone quit smoking it’s a big thing.”—**Jennifer Darko**

◆ **Dandenong church**, Vic, having been filled beyond capacity, has **bought 3 hectares** (7.5 acres) of land in Hampton Park on which



Adventist Aviation farewells “Charlie”

(Continued from page 1)

isolated and underprivileged people in the world. Thousands of lives, particularly of mothers and babies, have been saved by “his” services.

“Only eternity will reveal the full extent and impact of ‘his’ ministry in PNG,” says Pastor Millist. “You see, ‘Charlie’ was no ordinary missionary; he was a missionary with wings, wings that literally carried the three angels to every corner of Papua New Guinea.

“Though not the first aircraft owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the South Pacific, ‘Charlie’ has unquestionably contributed more to the growth and development of the church than any other aircraft owned by the denomination anywhere in the world.”

The church’s first mission aircraft, the *Andrew Stewart*, flew 3900 hours in New Guinea; by contrast, “Charlie” flew almost 18,000 hours.

Pastor Millist says, “During that time he ‘trained’ more than 17 young, inexperienced pastor-pilots, including me, and 15 other pilots to fly safely and professionally in the demanding New Guinea terrain, weather and airstrips. Each of those pilots can recount numerous stories of how God used, blessed and protected that aircraft.

Every pilot who flew P2-SDC attests that it was the fastest and best-performing aircraft of its model they have operated. We all agree that the angels not only flew with us but were present in the factory when it was built.”

According to Pastor Millist, the Cessna Aircraft company never envisaged any of its single-engine aircraft operating for more than 5000 hours and 10 years.

Thanks to dedicated mission pilots and engineers who faithfully operated and carefully maintained him, “Charlie” survived almost uninjured for those 28 years.

Unfortunately, his age began to show; a little undetected “osteoporosis” developed after more than 30,000 landings, which caused him to suffer a broken “leg” (main landing gear) on March 8, 2005. This resulted in several other minor “injuries” and culminated in his premature retirement.

On December 6, 2005, “Charlie” flew for the last time in PNG as his new owner took delivery and flew him to Queensland.

Almost two years to the day after “Charlie’s” broken leg precipitated the voluntary suspension of flying operations by the church in Papua New Guinea, Adventist Aviation recommenced services to the church with the one remaining aircraft P2-SDA, a 26-year-old aircraft that had been completely refurbished (News, March 11).

Adventist Aviation is also looking for a new aeroplane to replace “Charlie.”

Pastor Millist says, “Right now we are evaluating an aircraft manufactured in New Zealand that meets our stringent criteria. Ready to fly in PNG it will cost \$A1.85 million. The goal is within reach. Adventist Aviation already has significant funds in hand and wants to thank church members in PNG, Australia and New Zealand for their generous support. If church members again give generously to camp mission offerings in 2006-07 and to the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering on September 30, we believe we will have sufficient funds to purchase this aircraft.”

Pastor Millist asks for prayers on behalf of Adventist Aviation, saying, “Pray for us. We operate in dangerous conditions and Satan wants to thwart the work of our church in PNG. Pray we will continue to find dedicated young mission pilots and engineers. Pray for the church members, ministers, nurses, teachers and church leaders we transport daily to bring hope and healing to the people of this country. Pray for the critically ill and injured as well as the general public who benefit from our services as ‘angels of mercy.’ Pray that the angels will oversee the manufacture of this new aircraft as they did with ‘Charlie.’” —**RECORD staff/Roger Millist**

◆ The FUEL “Good news octane for world changers” youth rally and “Choose life” basketball tournament took place in Auckland from June 3 to 5, attracting more than 2000 young people over the long weekend. Over two days, 45 teams from the North New Zealand Conference competed in the basketball tournament that included daily devotionals, encouraging the players to focus on the courts of heaven.—**Arianna Kane**

◆ A community soapbox derby was the idea of Owen Osbourne



from the Oamaru church, NZ. In May, after much planning and truck loads of tyres, permits, street closure, ambulance staff, newspaper reporters and advertising was organised, seven trophies were up for grabs in the downhill events. Many requests for a repeat event next year have been lodged.—**D Proud**

◆ There continue to be high achievers in our Adventist school system. Ella Moore-Mitchell of Narromine Christian School, NSW, recently achieved a high distinction in English, writing and spelling and a credit in mathematics in the Australian Schools Competition. Ashton Hewett-Jones of Carmel Adventist College, WA, received a high distinction in the National Writing Competition. Carmel fared well with its Year 12 Tertiary Entrance Examination results for 2005—one of only 20 schools to have all eligible students graduate and also ranked

among the top 50 schools, based on the percentage of full-time students who achieved an average scaled score in the top third of all scores. In sport, both the boys soccer and the girls touch-football teams of Darling Downs Christian School, Qld, won their grand final matches in the Toowoomba Secondary Interschool School Sport Competition. The Lilydale Adventist Academy, Vic, senior boys cricket team won the Eastern Independent Schools Sports Cricket Championship for the second consecutive time.—**Scott Wegener**

GO TO UNI? ADVENTIST STUDENTS ASSOCIATION IS FOUND @ WWW.MYASA.ORG.AU

“Unseen” success for youth

PORT MACQUARIE, NEW SOUTH WALES

More than 80 young people stepped into an Adventist church for the first time to be part of the Port Macquarie Adventist church’s “Unseen” program. Some 170 people also registered to participate in the three-night outreach program held from May 21 to 23.

They came to the Port Macquarie Adventist church to hear two young passionate American speakers, Randy Paulsen and Lance Mishleau. Mr Paulsen and Mr Mishleau, from The Cause Ministries of Wisconsin, USA, had been featured on the local Christian radio station, Rhema FM, in the week prior to “Unseen,” and young people from the church had told their friends about the visiting speakers.

At the “Unseen” program, the young people who attended were shown a gripping short film, enjoyed praise and worship times and were challenged with Bible messages.

Cindy Smith, youth leader at the Port Macquarie church, says, “Randy powerfully unveiled in story form the unseen conflict that exists between good and evil, the victory of Christ at the cross and, on the last night, revealed how we are all part of this ongoing conflict today.



Randy Paulsen and Lance Mishleau meet some locals.

“At the end of the presentations many decisions were made for Christ and many wanted to learn more of God’s plan for their life. Afterwards, the church foyer was abuzz as everyone mingled to chat, make new friends and enjoy supper.”

“Unseen” didn’t stop there. The following week, the local young people spent another three nights in worship and praise, with Mr Paulsen and Mr Mishleau sharing their testimonies and their passion for Jesus. They challenged those attending to do their part in the cause of Christ and to come alive in their relationship with Him.

Ms Smith says, “We also had a lot of fun together, helping our American friends experience the local beaches and theme parks, BBQs and footy. In less than two weeks these young Americans had won our hearts and inspired us to tell others about Christ and His soon return.”—*RECORD staff/Cindy Smith*

Avondale business lecturer to appear on auditing DVD

COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

He is arguably the star of the show. Dr Keith Howson, dean of the Faculty of Business and Information Technology at Avondale College, features in a slick recruitment DVD for the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Dr Howson represents the Australian body on the institute’s academic relations committee and appears because he attended the institute’s annual meeting in Orlando, Florida, USA, in December last year.

He expected not to make the final cut but appears with other academics and with auditors from companies such as General Motors, MGM Mirage and Microsoft, several times throughout the DVD. Dr Howson’s message is simple: “You don’t have to be an accountant to be an auditor. We need people with an eclectic background to deal with a range of issues in a range of places.”

He even appears after the credits, gazing to the top right of the screen and giving this piece of philosophical advice: “Keep the windows open, because it’s the only way you can let the light in.”—*Brenton Stacey*

◆ Pacific Press has launched two separate electronic newsletters to help with pastoring and parenting. **Maximum Ministry** aims to help pastors maximise their church ministry. Each issue contains information on new resources and fresh ideas from pastors in the field. It’s free and can be subscribed to by emailing <MaximumMinistry@pacificpress.com>. **Adventist Parenting** address issues of family faith and offers practical advice to help raise confident, God-centred kids. It has resources on instilling values like honesty and kindness, building self-esteem, developing a

relationship with Jesus, discipline and making Sabbath fun. It’s free and can be subscribed to by emailing <adventistparenting@pacificpress.com>—*Messenger*

More @ www.pacificpress.com

◆ The Aldergrove church, British Columbia, Canada, recently hosted its second annual **Charity Golf Classic** in memory of **Dr Michael Haluschak**. Their Acts of Kindness (AOK) committee planned the day that had 110 golfers teeing off and an appreciation dinner. More than **\$CAD41,000 was raised** for AOK projects, which include a breakfast

program, community Christian dinner and extreme home makeovers.—*Messenger*

◆ Doctors and medical staff celebrated the arrival of the **100,000th baby** delivered at the **Taiwan Adventist Hospital** on May 15. **Sun Wei-hung**, the first baby entering the world via the Taiwan Adventist Hospital 51 years ago, and now an employee, was among those welcoming the baby girl who became **\$NT100,000 better off** from the prize given by the hospital.—*The China Post staff*



◆ When **Geraldine Felder-Noongwook** (pictured) recently entered the outdoor baptismal tank in Savoonga, Alaska, USA, the outside **temperature was -15°C**. A relative of one of the original Adventists in Savoonga, she was determined to be baptised even though it was so cold and while wearing a cast on her arm.—*John Kriegelstein*

Adventists plan world tobacco summit

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

Four million people die worldwide from smoking-related diseases each year, according to the World Health Organisation, and this is expected to increase in coming decades. Despite aggressive, decades-long governmental and private antismoking efforts, every lit cigarette signals the habit is still a serious health concern.

In response to renewed concern and in conjunction with the 13th World Conference on Tobacco Health, to be held in Washington, DC, from July 14 to 16, representatives from the Seventh-day Adventist Church will convene the same weekend for their Global Tobacco Control Summit.

The summit will highlight “the historical events leading from the early Adventist temperance movement of the 1870s, recognise the official outreach programs developed for tobacco users around the world and summarise the current spectrum of tobacco-control activities in the Adventist Church,” says Dr DeWitt Williams, director of health ministries for the North American Division.

The summit also aims to “reposition Adventists as players in the forefront” of anti-smoking efforts, says Dr Williams. In recent years, antismoking has enjoyed

escalating public support and Adventists have consequently “lost their [historical] edge,” he adds.

Two Adventists, Dr Wayne McFarland and Pastor Elman Folkenberg, pioneered antismoking efforts in 1959 when cigarettes were “cool.” The team’s landmark 5-Day Plan to Stop Smoking positioned Adventists as anti-addiction vanguards and provided “timely intervention” for the 47 per cent of Americans who were then smokers,” says Dr Allan Handysides.

Today, despite greater awareness of the health dangers, 21 per cent of Americans still smoke, according to the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and around the world the figures are higher.

But beyond just raising risk awareness, the Global Tobacco Control Summit will redefine the Adventist Church’s role in international smoking-cessation programs. Organisers anticipate it will “provide a forum for thoughtful planning for the future of the Adventist Church’s mission and training of leaders to address the global tobacco epidemic.”

For Dr Linda Hyder Ferry, associate professor of preventive medicine at the School of Medicine and School of Public Health at Loma Linda University, and one of the first to use medication to help battle cigarette addiction, “it’s a historic moment

to have Adventists . . . contribut[ing] to the 13th World Conference. It’s a real opportunity for Adventists to share what they’re doing against tobacco during a meeting of the minds with world leaders.”

Dr Hyder Ferry adds that the summit will benefit from Asian, European and South American representatives. Louis Saboga Nunes of Portugal, one of the presenters, trains Portuguese health professionals and will report on his innovative “Stop smoking” internet program.

Also presenting will be director of the Cambodian branch of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Mom Vong, who will speak of ADRA’s partnership with Buddhist monks to create smoke-free temples and schools in Cambodia. And Raymond Romand will discuss his efforts to combat chronic tobacco use in France.

Those convening at the summit will also redouble their efforts to combat the lure of tobacco. “Preventive strategies, which include building positive and meaningful relationships with our young people, are the greatest and most effective ways of ‘immunising’ against smoking and smoking-related diseases,” Dr Handysides concludes. “We communicate values through relationships, not through billboards.”—*Elizabeth Lechleitner/ANN Staff*

◆ The worldwide **distribution of the Bible** continues its downward trend, according to the United Bible Societies, Reading, England. In 2005 some 372.6 million Bibles, New Testaments, Scripture portions and selections were distributed by Bible Societies—down by 4.6 per cent (18 million copies) compared with 2004. Since 2000, the distribution of printed Scriptures has **dwindled steadily by 41.2 per cent**. The declining distribution of printed Scriptures does not mean the spread of God’s Word is going down, a spokesperson explained. Bible

Societies were increasingly making **use of electronic media** like the internet, CDs, radio and television—methods not recorded in the statistics.—*Crosswalk.com*

◆ The **Comix35 Christian Comics Training Course** was held in Sydney from May 29 to 31—the first time in Australia since 1998. The course aims to teach Christian communicators and artists how to express the **Word of God through comics**, with the focus on communication as well as some drawing instruction. Topics covered included identifying



the audience; storyboarding and visual storytelling; and cultural, communication and evangelism strategy considerations. The course was attended by 19 people and three presenters. Another animation conference, under the banner of Comix35, is planned for Sydney in 2007.—*Anna Morgan*

More @ comix35.gospelcom.net

◆ **Rick Warren**, Nobel laureate **Elie Wiesel** and Cardinal **Theodore McCarrick**, are among 27 religious

leaders who have signed a statement urging the United States to **“abolish torture now—without exceptions.”** The statement, being published in newspaper advertisements, comes from a new organisation called the **National Religious Campaign Against Torture**, which has formed in response to allegations of human rights abuse at US detention centres. Titled “Torture is a moral issue,” the statement says that torture “violates the basic dignity of the human person” and “contradicts our nation’s most cherished values.”—*Crosswalk.com*

YOUR CHURCH DOING SOMETHING EXCITING, INNOVATIVE OR INSPIRING? EMAIL RECORD@SIGNSPUBLISHING.COM.AU

Gone

BY MONIQUE ROGERS

GONE. A VOID STRETCHED BEFORE her. Wailing posed an ever-present din in the background. She was glad they were here to shed the tears she no longer had for the one lying cold as stone before her. Just beyond the slightest touch of a finger, he lay. She feared that a touch would give reality to the nightmare overtaking her life.

A heavy hand suddenly appeared on her left shoulder, causing the reality of the surrounding room to hit her like a shock wave. The room where she had sat wailing for her husband only a few weeks earlier pressed in around her. She felt claustrophobic, her throat constricted, her breathing rapid and shallow.

"Would you like some water?" the figure at her side asked.

Barely able to breathe, an answer was not forthcoming. Instead, her mouth gaped in her attempt to show the agony she felt at her son's deathbed. *El Shaddai! Why did You allow this to happen to me? I have served You my whole life, yet I am alone. My husband gone and now my son, my only son, is also gone . . .*

Falling facedown, a moan escaped her throat. She was crying out to God in the only way she could.

Her whole life, she had been the one comforting those who had lost loved ones, showing them there is a God who cares. Although people in the community had gathered to mourn the loss of her only son, no platitudes could ease the sudden feeling that she was alone. She longed to feel the comforting presence of her God—*El Shaddai*—once again.

The cold, dirt floor stunned her back



HigherClips

to the present. Jolting upright she began to move slowly and purposefully around the room, determined to once more be the needed hostess. As she moved about giving drinks and bread to her guests, the eyes of those closest to her misted with tears.

Then it was time. It seemed like it had been days since her son had died, yet in reality it had been less than an hour. Just enough time for the town to gather for the funeral march that would take her son outside the city's confines.

Again, that same road. The body just ahead, with all who remain, behind. Clinging as close as possible to her son, she willed her legs into movement lest she fall.

As they neared the town gate she suddenly felt an urge to look up. Wiping her eyes, she saw a group nearing the gate. Looking back at her son's body a fresh torrent of tears swept down her cheeks.

"Don't cry," said a voice that at once seemed to comfort and calm her as she turned to see who it belonged to. The eyes that met hers seemed to pierce right into her soul and she felt the presence of her *El Shaddai*.

"Young man, I say to you, get up!"

"Mum—why are you crying?"

Unable to speak, one thought raced wildly around her mind as she hugged her son—*My son is alive!*

The crowd was suddenly transformed, shouting praises to the One they recognised as the Messiah. "Praise God!"

My son is alive!

"Thank You, *El Shaddai!*"

My son is alive!

"A great prophet has appeared among us."

I am not alone. El Shaddai has not forsaken me!

"God has come to help His people."

"Thank You, Teacher, for giving me back my son," she said as she fell at His feet in worship.

Is it human instinct that our trust in God falls away when we need it most? Why do we miss the presence of God when He is waiting for us to let Him comfort our sorrows and heal our hurts?

In the Bible countless examples prove God's loyalty to His children, yet when trouble surfaces these are swept out the window in favour of attempted reasoning and self-pity. We are told that in God "there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother" (Proverbs 18:24*). How often is this promise ignored! We blame God and isolate ourselves from Him rather than prayerfully open our hearts and minds to the comfort He offers. It's such a simple idea to totally trust in God. Why is it also the most difficult?

Even Solomon urges us not to rely on our own wisdom: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5, 6). **R**

This story is based on Luke 7:11-17.

**All Bible quotations are from the New International Version.*

Monique Rogers is a communication and education student at Avondale College, who recently interned with the RECORD editorial team.

Behind *The Code*

BY BOB BOLST

THE CODE WAS LAUNCHED IN MAY as a response to the hugely successful novel—and film—*The Da Vinci Code*. Series producer Behren Schulz explains the making of *The Code*.

When did this project begin?

About mid-November last year.

It has taken about seven months to do. Is that about normal for a production of this scale?

Definitely not! The normal time frame for such a production would be more like 18 months. To plan, research, write the script, organise the people and travel takes a huge amount of time. Then to edit and craft the look and feel also takes an extensive amount of time and energy. We always knew it would be a tall ask to get it done in time.

So how did you get it done so quickly?

By working 18-hour days, six days a week for the seven months it took!

How did you decide the series would have five episodes?

We decided that at least one episode on the novel would be required, but the other four episodes basically picked themselves.

The novel by Dan Brown hits hard at some of the central and fundamental themes of Christianity. The first episode covers the novel and highlights some of the major factual errors. The second episode looks at the origins of the Bible and features commentary from biblical scholars. The third episode covers the divinity of Jesus—was He really God or was He merely a man who married and had children, as claimed in the novel?

The fourth episode deals with the status

of women in the New Testament and the fifth episode deals with prophecy and how it works. We have endeavoured to make the last episode as a teaser so interested viewers will decide to watch some of our other productions.

What has been the response to the production?

It's a little difficult for me to be objective, but my boss tells me everyone who has watched it has raved about it. I am pleased with that.

Why did you have to use actor Leah McLeod as a presenter for this series? Couldn't you find an Adventist to do it?

We used Leah to maintain credibility with viewers. We needed to have someone who was able to ask questions like, "Was Jesus really God?" or "Can the Bible be trusted?" For a person who believes the Bible and knows Jesus is God, these questions would be a trifle forced. Also, we wanted someone who was experienced and comfortable in front of the camera.

How do you see the series being used?

It will be used in a variety of ways, but rather than answering your question in detail, I might say that I would hope viewers would be able to move past the novel and highlight the universal Christian themes we covered. I would hope episode five could be used in such a way that the Christian code—prophecy—will be highlighted. As Jesus is the object of all prophecy, I would like viewers to become convinced Jesus is worth following and that He can provide meaning in a meaningless world. **R**

Bob Bolst is general manager of Adventist Media.



Does your church have a website?

The internet is here to stay! In Australia and New Zealand more than half the population is classified as regular users of the internet. This means half the people in your church are also internet savvy. If you have a church website and are looking for productive links to add to it, then consider Adventist Media. We can provide you with the link as well as some good graphics you could use in conjunction with our site.

A new online service we have recently dedicated is our online video-lending library. This has begun on a low-key level to see if it will be useful to churches. Sometimes pastors and church members look for different ways of getting names of people they can work with. This service is designed as another way to attract people. Currently we have two churches in New South Wales listed. We are looking for churches that would like to advertise their library online. If your church has a library of videos and DVDs, you are the church we would like to help let the community know of your resources.

**Media Evangelism Offering—
Next week, July 22**



Who wants to watch a video?



BY JOHN GATE

What do we do at Adventist Media?

ADVENTIST MEDIA HAS BEEN IN CONTINUAL OPERATION since 1935. It has evolved through radio, television, video and DVD media, but the one purpose has always existed—to connect people to Jesus. Whatever the current media, Adventist Media was using it.

Adventist Media, historically, has had two essential ministries—the Discovery Centre and the Production Department.

The Discovery Centre is known by many because it has been used by tens of thousands of people. Offering 13 different courses, it has most bases covered when questions are asked about matters arising from the Bible. Our courses range from archaeology to relationships. Last year 5288 people applied for one of our courses. This is a large volume of courses to mark and return to students on a daily basis. Usually our instructors would mark around 70 lessons a day. Sometimes this work is monotonous, but every now and then a real gem of a letter arrives and the team is buoyed by it.

In 2005, 2276 people completed the courses they began, with 135 of them deciding to be baptised. While we will not claim credit for introducing all these people to the church, we are excited that we have been involved in these decisions in some way.

Last year's Adventist Media Offering was dedicated to moving onto the internet. We have had a dream for some time to use the internet and have our courses online. We have discovered that the top two reasons why people use the internet are searching for financial data and religious information! That tells us we need to be where people are searching. We have a sophisticated piece of software that allows interaction between student and instructor and will provide all the necessary tracking. We have three courses online now and you can find them at <www.adventistmedia.com.au>. So far "Digging up the past," "Try Jesus" and "Healthy heart and healthy bones" are online, with more to follow.

The Production Department has the role of preparing and producing audiovisual resources for witnessing. Over the years we have had a major impact on the evangelism of the church, with the most successful effort to date being the *Search* series. Church leaders and members agree that this is an effective ministry tool. During the past 18 months we have produced *Who is Jesus* and *The Code*. In recent years, we have sold tens of thousands of videos and DVDs, all directed at assisting church members with evangelism.—*Bob Bolst/Adventist Media*

MOST VIDEO MINISTRY TODAY IS INITIATED THROUGH television advertising. We receive names in response to this advertising and follow up with video ministry. But we don't have to depend on TV ads to get names for video ministry. We can advertise and connect with people in many ways, including:

1. Newspaper advertising (see resource CD for samples);
2. Letterbox cards offering a free viewing of a video (cards available from Adventist Media);
4. Internet advertising (see the online video lending library);
5. *Signs of the Times* magazine;
6. A market stall;
7. A billboard;
8. A personal offer—you simply invite a friend to view a video.

So there are many ways of getting names for video ministry, but whether the name comes from television, newspaper, letterbox card or market stall, the delivery process and the follow-up through video ministry follows the same divine strategy. The procedure is the same for any form of advertising: advertise; collect contact name and delivery details; make the personal delivery; and follow up with video-ministry strategy.



Brian Hodge's personal video display that he uses at markets and home shows in the Port Macquarie area (NSW). Each display usually connects with about 15 people who request videos.

Some methods of getting names for video-ministry are more cost effective than others. Letterbox cards, which produce about three responses per 1000 cards letterboxed, are one of the most cost-effective ways. A thousand cards cost about \$A20, so each response is valued at about \$A6.50, which is excellent for outreach purposes.

For a church committed to video ministry, with a strong video ministry team, it's important not to depend totally on television advertising for names. Use each of these methods where possible, so a steady stream of requests come in, and the video ministers will have names to follow up on a continual basis.

Remember video ministry is a lifestyle—not a program. **R**

This is part of a series of articles exploring video ministry and how it can work in your community.

John Gate is director of the Adventist Discovery Centre.

Adventist secondary schools: A more complete “report card”

BY BARRY HILL

RESearch IS ESSENTIAL IN KEEPING our church-school system effective. Our latest research activity has been in our secondary schools, where we have sought to find out how they are pursuing their Adventist mission. Are schools doing what they should be doing? How strong is their Adventist ethos? Could they be doing some things better?

Our team of four interviewed 18 principals, 12 deputy principals, two chaplains, 184 teachers and 58 students in 19 schools—274 people, in all, across the South Pacific Division (SPD). Most time was spent in seven Australian schools, one New Zealand school, two Papua New Guinea schools, and four schools in the Trans-Pacific Union Mission. This created a mountain of data from which I wrote a 30-page report (see “Adventist secondary schools receive report card,” *News*, June 17).

Our schools made us most welcome and were “an open book.” School principals were keen to use their own school’s research data to help them pursue their mission.

To share more fully the results of this survey, I will comment briefly on responses to eight of our 18 interview questions.

The school’s purpose

We asked everybody interviewed, “What do you see as the purpose of this school?”

The great majority of teachers said their school’s main purpose was to develop a saving relationship between their students and Jesus. Administrators’ (principal and deputy) responses mirrored those of teachers.

And although their responses were not as sophisticated as those of their teachers, students generally echoed teacher perceptions. It was encouraging to see that our schools have their main purpose clear and right.

Schools’ Adventist ethos

Another question was, “How Adventist do you perceive your school to be?”

This question was difficult because there were so many possible school indicators for being “Adventist.” Some principals noted that the style of Adventism being lived out today is varied and constantly changing. One mused that “being Adventist is quite different for my generation, compared to that of my younger staff.”

In interviews, administrators and teachers often asked themselves, “What does it mean to be Adventist?” Was it more in loving Jesus, more in living the Adventist lifestyle, or both? Then they would consider which element seemed strongest in the school. Some rated their school as very Adventist in terms of showing love, compassion and relationship to Jesus, but sometimes less Adventist than they would like in promoting a distinctive Adventist lifestyle.

Most respondents thought their school was doing well or satisfactorily in pursuing its Adventist mission, while a minority thought their school was not as Adventist as they would wish.

In this regard, our schools could be reflecting the wider Adventist Church, in that many members could be asking similar questions in developing their own Adventist identity. Consequently, we concluded that we need to restate what it really means to be an Adventist in today’s context.

Teachers’ spiritual life

Teacher example is potentially the school’s greatest influence, so we asked teachers how their personal spiritual life impacted their classroom teaching. No other interview question was answered so unequivocally by teachers.

Teachers’ work and modelling are deeply affected by the strength and consistency of their daily walk with God. That relationship has a profound impact on their teaching. Typical first responses were “very much so,” “a lot,” “a day-to-day thing,” “it does in every way,” “big time,” and “if you

have your relationship with God, you can impart that to kids.”

A number were also honest enough to confirm that a lack of connection with God impacts negatively on their relationships, performance and morale. Overall, teachers were well aware of the importance of being spiritual, and sought to be spiritual.

To provide another angle on teacher responses, students were asked, “Can you tell that your teachers are spiritual by the way they teach and interact with you?” Many students responded that they thought most teachers were spiritual and that only a small minority were not. They read teacher spirituality by qualities such as caring, warmth, helpfulness, passion, consistency of behaviour, teaching methods, emotional responses, sharing of belief, openness, happiness, prayer and shared values.

Teacher beliefs

We asked teachers, “Are there any issues with Adventist Church beliefs that are having a negative influence on your efforts to pursue your Adventist objectives here?” Very few teachers in the sample had any issue with church beliefs. Out of 184 responses to this question, only eight teachers raised any issue about believing Adventist doctrines as they are stated.

However, a significant minority (25 out of 184) did have questions about how the church should deal with lifestyle issues related to belief. Such issues included wearing of jewellery, vegetarian diet and choice of entertainment, church music and worship style. These issues surfaced repeatedly in other interview responses too and signal the need for the church to revisit what it means to live an Adventist lifestyle.

The non-Adventist school population

The ratio of non-Adventist students in our schools is increasing steadily and we



wonder how much impact they are having on the attitudes and faith of Adventist students. So we asked, “Do the non-Adventist students and/or teachers here make any impact on how the school implements its philosophy?”

Most teachers (147 out of 184 responses) and administrators (17 out of 21) felt their non-Adventist student groups and teachers were not impacting their schools negatively in a very significant way. Typical comments to support these views were “presents a good opportunity for evangelism,” “I believe it is healthy,” “don’t think they do either way” and “the negative is usually the Adventists.” With a few exceptions, student opinion supported this view.

On the other hand, a small teacher minority in some schools were quite sure their school was being compromised by its non-Adventist student population. Tied to this view was the concern that when the proportion of Adventist to non-Adventist students in the school becomes too small, the Adventist minority may feel that Adventist standards are being compromised to cater for the student majority. We see the need for church and school to dialogue more to ensure we keep the non-Adventist balance right for the right reasons.

Teaching values and ideas

When we asked teachers how they teach Christian values and ideas, they collectively cited a range of tactics. The most frequent response was that personal example was their key strategy, and that was a good answer. Another frequent reply was that values and ideas should only be taught incidentally and not deliberately, lest the teaching process becomes laboured. This view is part of ongoing debate about the best way to teach, and doubtless influenced the find-

ing that about half the teachers mentioned using specific values-teaching tactics.

Students were asked, “Do your teachers refer to Christian values and ideas in your lessons? How much?”

Their responses were perceptive. They saw values and ideas being taught incidentally in some subjects, and more intentionally or frequently in others. Overall, there was considerable variation between teachers and subjects. Those perceptions squared with teacher accounts.

We applaud the many teachers who consciously refer to the Adventist world view and effectively teach Christian ideas and values. But we felt that a number of them, particularly in the Pacific, could more clearly articulate what the Adventist world view is, and make more deliberate use of strategies for teaching values and ideas.

We were pleased that our research also showed many teachers want more practical skill development and other forms of support for teaching values than we are currently giving them.

School relationships

We asked teachers and students how well they related to each other, even pushing them to score their school’s relational climate out of 10. This question was important because some faith literature prioritises relational warmth as the key indicator of a school’s success in building student faith. As perceived by our teachers, administrators and students, schools rated well or very well in relational warmth, teacher helpfulness and social cohesiveness. Most of our schools pride themselves on their “family” feel.

The student interview data correlated well with teacher assessments of the quality of relationships in four schools. Rela-

tionship quality is clearly a genuine and pervasive strength of the system. Such relational strength is a tribute to the efforts our schools are making, and we should play to this strength in promoting our school system.

School evangelism

We asked schools how they went about telling the community about their Adventist faith. With the assistance of strong chaplaincy programs, Australian and New Zealand schools were generally doing well, with a range of creative evangelistic strategies. Being poorly resourced, Pacific schools did not match this range; however, several were still moderately successful.

Although the orientation to being evangelistic ranged from almost nonexistent to very strong across the sample, most schools were making good efforts to reach out to their community. To be fair to schools, their evangelistic orientation must overcome an already crowded curriculum and complex demands of running a school. Considered in the context of the total system, many schools throughout the SPD have developed an effective evangelistic outreach program, but many teachers still feel more could be done to coordinate, support and enrich community outreach.

The overall report card

We concluded from our study that while we could be doing some things better in our schools, there is a lot to rejoice about. The team agreed with researcher Dr Arnold Reye’s conclusion that “by and large, we have very dedicated and evangelistically minded teachers. There appears to be a high level of spirituality among the staffs, and this is very much to the credit of leadership at school level.”

The data has also shown there are issues in maintaining school ethos and some of these are part of wider issues affecting the whole church. Our schools often walk a tightrope between being truly Adventist and being evangelistic. Leadership at all levels and church members need to give them ample support in the complex business of maintaining their Adventist ethos. **R**

Barry Hill is director of education for the South Pacific Division, based in Wahroonga, New South Wales.

Chatting with Daniel

BY MARILYN MERRETT

I WAS ALWAYS FASCINATED AS A CHILD THAT, ONE DAY, I WOULD be able to sit and chat with my favourite Bible characters in heaven. I would imagine talking to Jonah about the big fish, David about Goliath, Moses about the parting of the Red Sea and, of course, Daniel about being in the lions' den.

But I had not given this idea much thought until recently. Daniel again came to my mind, only this time I imagined who I would want to talk to if I were him. After long conversations with God, I imagine Adam, Noah, Abraham and Moses would be sought after as well.



Marilyn Merrett

Then it hit me. If I were Daniel, I would want to talk to me. Me—because I lived at the time of the end, the time of the divided feet of the statue he saw in his dream. God gave him a vision of the future and it terrified him: he fainted, he was ill and he couldn't work for three days.

If I were Daniel, I would want to talk to end-time people—and I

am one of those people. I began to feel uneasy. What would I say to him? While the world fell apart around me, what was I doing?

How could I tell Daniel I had all these timesaving gadgets, but had to spend my time working to buy them? How could I tell Daniel that while the world was falling apart, God still blessed me abundantly, but I was too comfortable? I could barely find time to spend a few minutes with God before racing off to work.

How could I tell Daniel I had too much food, it was hard not to overeat and stay away from chocolate? How could I tell Daniel I would rather have walked on hot coals than go to a stranger's door and ask for money to send to the poor and starving on the other side of the world so they might survive?

How could I tell Daniel there was this thing we had invented like a box, only it showed pictures and talked and I would sit for hours watching and listening to it each night? How could I tell Daniel it was too hard to tell people that Jesus was returning soon and to get ready?

Now chatting to Daniel doesn't seem like such a good idea. Maybe I will just avoid him for a few hundred years. Then again, maybe I could do something, get involved and follow God's leading—and I too will have some stories to tell. **R**

Marilyn Merrett writes from Woodcroft, South Australia.

Record Roo's kids corner



Hi Kids,
King Jehoshaphat was a powerful king who had big armies to protect his cities. Read about the troops and their captains in 2 Chronicles 17.

RR

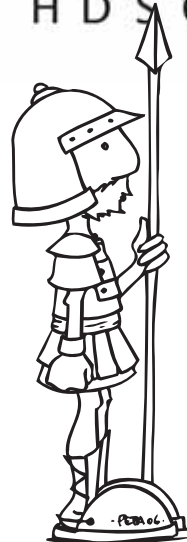
Fill in the Blanks

So _____ became increasingly _____, and he built _____ and _____ cities in Judah.

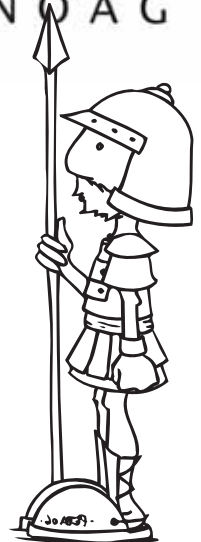
2 Chronicles 17:12 NKJV

Word Search

D	A	S	R	E	I	D	L	O	S	S	D
J	J	E	H	O	S	H	A	P	H	A	T
I	E	T	R	O	O	P	S	J	C	L	A
U	H	V	N	S	D	A	A	A	A	D	
L	O	A	O	A	B	E	P	R	R	D	A
D	Z	D	I	H	L	T	R	H	N	N	I
P	A	U	H	S	A	O	I	V	A	A	L
K	B	J	N	I	A	N	U	T	E	H	E
M	A	O	N	S	G	M	A	R	Z	H	S
H	D	S	G	N	I	K	A	N	O	A	G



ADNAH
AMASIAH
CAPTAINS
ELIADA
JEHONANAN
JEHOSHAPHAT
JEHOZABAD
KING
SERVE
SOLDIERS
TROOPS
VALOUR



Peta Taylor

More on *Da Vinci*

KEITH SUTTON, NZ

There is a short answer to “*Da Vinci* trap?” (Letters, June 24): one is fiction; the other is fact according to Bible prophecy.

SIMON GOBBETT, WA

I read the “*Da Vinci* trap?” (Letters, June 24) with interest, but I would like to dig a little deeper into the issues raised.

I agree that *The Da Vinci Code* “claims” the discovery of hidden knowledge about the Catholic Church. However, this knowledge has been voiced publicly since the Reformation and is no hidden truth. Knowledge of it doesn’t make it a stigma; the stigma comes in what spirit we express this truth. We need to always follow the advice of 2 Timothy 2:24-26 and Titus 3:2.

The writer mentions Adventism’s claims that the Catholic Church changed the commandments. These claims were part of Luther’s 95 theses and sparked what we call the Reformation. The Catholic Church also makes claims of this kind in their own catechisms and literature. But this is an obsolete argument because there is no dispute from the Protestant world and a great body of Scripture confirms that Jesus is our only high priest and forgiver of sins.

The writer also infers that the claims of *The Da Vinci Code* and the Adventist Church are somehow connected by the same logic. But most Christians and secular historians would agree *The Da Vinci Code* is not based on any historical evidence. By contrast, the Adventist Church is continually improving our knowledge and understanding of history.

The Da Vinci Code claims groups with contrary views on the nature of Jesus have been persecuted by the Catholic Church. Although Ellen White also wrote on this topic, this does not mean she endorses the views of *The Da Vinci Code*, only that there are some actual historical events among the *Da Vinci* fiction.

The basic argument of the letter writer is a link between the structural elements of *The Da Vinci Code* and Adventist belief regarding the distortions found in Christian history. Let us remember that *The Da Vinci Code* is a novel sold as fiction but, unfortunately, many people have read it as fact. Many people lack a basic understanding of

history and the Bible. We should nurture those seeking a greater understanding of the gospel and Christian history.

The Adventist Church may be hopping on *The Da Vinci Code* bandwagon, but it is not falling into a trap. It is using something clearly anti-Christian to proclaim the truth of the gospel. Who can argue with that?

the world. Would one be presumptuous to suggest that a “Christian world view” could be synonymous with an “Adventist world view”?

Having children and grandchildren who have benefited from Christian education provided by both Adventist schools and those of other denominations, I observe in-

The Adventist Church may be hopping on *The Da Vinci Code* bandwagon, but it is not falling into a trap.

A musical balance

JAN SHIPTON, THAILAND

With reference to “The absolutely silent sector” (Features, May 6), would it be possible to have a musician give a scholarly definition of the terms *hymn* and *song*, so we can compare the two?

Some churches seem to think that the pews will empty of young people if hymns are sung and will fill if more contemporary songs are played. Some also seem to say that only the hymns in the official hymnbook are divinely inspired and nothing else should be used.

I agree with the writer, “the elements are important, but should be kept in balance.”

Reading “report card”

GRAEME DUSTOW, NSW

“Adventist secondary schools receive report card” (News, June 17) raises some interesting issues concerning the attitude of teachers toward the terms *Adventist* and *Christian*. I’d like to ask whether there really is a problem that needs to be fixed.

Perhaps teachers in Seventh-day Adventist Church schools have experienced individually or observed corporately what Paul wrote to the Galatian church concerning the precedence of faith in Christ Jesus (see Galatians 3:28).

Teachers giving precedence to a *Christian* over an *Adventist* world view may be aligned with Paul’s attitude in 1 Corinthians 2:2. Maybe this is more important because this is what has the power to change lives.

The Bible, empowered by the Holy Spirit, gives the gospel of Jesus Christ to

creasing numbers of young people progressing from our Adventist “Christian” schools aware of, but not focused on, behavioural issues. They are free and alive in Jesus and are willing to maintain their connection to their God and church.

In light of this reality, is there any need for development of strategies to change our teachers’ views?

LIZ DUNSTAN, BOOK DEPARTMENT, SIGNS PUBLISHING COMPANY

“Adventist secondary schools receive report card” (News, June 17) suggests quietening deficiencies among our children’s educators that should concern parents and the wider church.

However—and quite coincidentally—Signs Publishing Company is producing a schools edition of “The Bookshelf,” which comprises more than 80 specifically Adventist resources for teachers, parents and students, affirming of Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, lifestyle, values and world view. This will be distributed through Adventist Book Centres and schools from this month.

I believe our schools are among the best in the world. They have provided innumerable young people with our Adventist world view over many years. If our parents and educators avail themselves of the resources already available within our denomination, then the final report will read differently.

Note: Views in Letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author’s original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Homecoming

Celebrating 25 years*



President's Reception
plus alumni luncheon and
Sanitarium breakfast

August 25-27, 2006

Anniversaries

Bowen, John (Jack) and Norma (nee Eyears) met at a Lismore (NSW) camp and were married 14.5.46 in the old Lismore church. Married life began at Port Macquarie. They later moved to Ballina, then to Forster, where they were found-



ing members of the church at Forster-Tuncurry. They had five children, John, Glenn, Neil, Bev and Kath (three surviving). In their home at Hallidays Point they were presented with a large family album for their 60th anniversary by their children and grandchildren, who came from as far as Townsville (Qld) and Sydney (NSW) for the happy celebration.

Wilson, Fred and Lois (nee McCallum) met at an Adventist social in Melbourne (Vic) and were married on 18.6.56 in the North Fitzroy SDA church by the late Pastor Harry Streeter. With their five children and their spouses, Linda, Bruce and Ruth, Kenneth and Gillian, Steve and Sue, and Tim, family, friends, and all but one of the original bridal party, they joyfully celebrated their golden anniversary on 18.6.06 in Ferntree Gully SDA church, where they have been active members for over 35 years. Guests travelled from as far away as Fiji, NSW and country Victoria.

Weddings

Belik—Dernedde. Luke James Belik, son of John and Christine Belik (Toowoomba, Qld), and Sara Eileen Dernedde, daughter of David and Catherine Dernedde (Cairns, Qld), were married on 25.6.06 at Hope Island.

André van Rensburg

Flack—McGill. Nicholas Stewart Flack, son of Stewart Flack and Margaret Eagles (Ballarat, Vic), and Candice Jayne McGill, daughter of Robert and Glenys McGill (Geelong), were married on 14.5.06 in the Geelong Adventist church.

Gary Kent

Gibson—Hokin. Jared Gibson, son of Colin and Betty Gibson (Taree, NSW), and Rochelle Hokin, daughter of Dennis and Adrienne Hokin (Kariong, Central Coast), were married on 18.6.06 at Somersby Falls on the Central Coast of NSW.

Andrew Kingston

Obituaries

Cocks, Graham Royce, born 10.1.1943 in Adelaide, SA; died 2.5.06 at Upper Sturt in the Adelaide Hills. On 29.4.68 he married Mauvereen. He is survived by his wife; his daughter and son-in-law, Danielle and Ian Moore; his son, Dillon; and his grandson, Jourdain Moore (all of Upper Sturt). Graham was a faithful, tireless worker for God and his fellowman; also a beloved husband and family man. He is sadly missed, but forever in our hearts.

Wolfgang Stefani, Will Grobler

Jenkinson, Huia David, born 13.7.1920 at Ohaupo, NZ; died 12.5.06 in Auckland. On 23.11.43 he married Marjorie. He is survived by his wife (Auckland); his children and their spouses, Carol and Trevor Sayers (Gosford, NSW), and Lorraine and Stephen Herbert (USA), Eric and Jacqui and Dennis (all of Auckland, NZ); his five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. David was a man of many passions, family, aeroplanes, church and travel. He served his country and countrymen as RNZAF 391705 in WW2 as a wireless operator in Fiji, New Caledonia and NZ. In 1951 his attraction to Jesus led him to the SDA Church and he gave 40 years of faithful service to the Hamilton church. His last earthly abode was at the Adventist Retirement Village, Manukau. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Peter Howard

Morris, Kenneth Allan, born 9.10.1968 at Newcastle, NSW; died 15.5.06 at Newcastle, after a long illness. He was the eldest son of Betty and Owen Morris (Karuah). He is survived by his parents; his brother, Kevin; and his sisters, Julie and Janelle. Ken spent much of his working life with Telecom; and he went to sleep with the assurance of salvation through Jesus, and of the Resurrection.

Norm Tyack

Pendleton, Ruby (nee Nobbs), born 30.11.1930 on Norfolk Island; died 19.5.06 on Norfolk, On 13.10.60 she married Alan, who predeceased her on 22.5.82. Ruby was the eldest child of Charles and Sylvia Nobbs (nee Robinson). She is survived by her children, Wayne and Kaye; her grandson, Allan; her mother, Sylvia Nobbs; her siblings, Steve, Les, Alex, Roy and Joe; and their spouses (all of Norfolk Island). Ruby now rests from a prolonged illness and awaits the call of the precious Saviour. She was a silent sufferer and shared her pleasant nature and smile to the end.

George Porter

Positions vacant

▲ **Staff Auditor—General Conference Auditing Service, South Pacific Division**. For further information please visit the POSITIONS VACANT section of the SPD website at <spd.adventist.org.au/employment>. **Applications in writing** (including your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your church pastor) should be forwarded to Human Resources, South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW 2076; email <hr@adventist.org.au>; fax (02) 9489 0943. Applications close July 28, 2006.

▲ **Assistant Management Accountant/Cost Accountant—Sanitarium Health Food Company (Auckland, NZ)** is seeking a qualified accountant who is looking to further their career within the management accounting discipline. The successful applicant will have an eye for detail, together with strong analytical and EXCEL skills. Responsibilities: Performance monitoring and detailed variance analysis, standard product costing and budgeting. **Applications in writing** (including CV) should be forwarded to: Cost Accounting Vacancy, Private Bag 92127, Auckland, NZ; fax (09) 625 4293; or email <caramia.pearson@sanitarium.co.nz>, no later than July 31, 2006.

▲ **Assistant Clinical Coordinator and Faculty Secretary—Avondale College's Faculty of Nursing and Health (Sydney Campus)** needs to fill two positions: (1) **Assistant Clinical Coordinator** for 25 hpw. (2) **Faculty Secretary** for 30 hpw. Essential requirements to both positions are Certificate level qualifications in office administration, with competence in Microsoft Office programs. Previous experience working in an education environment and knowledge of medical terminology would be an advantage. For application details visit <www.avondale.edu.au>. Closing date July 19, 2006.

For church-related employment opportunities visit the Employment section on the SPD website <www.adventist.org.au>.

van Rensburg, Erik Eugene, born 20.12.1983 at Devonport, Tas; died 19.5.06 at Springwood, Qld, when his motorbike crashed into a vehicle that was on the wrong side of the road. He was on his way to a QUSDAS youth program. He is the son of Pastor André and Margaret (nee Bank) van Rensburg, and brother of Martin. He was an extraordinary vibrant and loving person, who had a major influence on the teens and youth. He declined a professional rugby career because it conflicted with his religious beliefs. Around 800 people attended Erik's funeral at Springwood SDA church. The message powerfully uplifted the Lord and was a testament to the positive impact of his 22 years. "We love Erik, Erik loved God, God loves us."

Sean Berkeley, Travis Manners
John McMurtry, Richie Reid
Trafford Fischer, Malcolm Potts

Final Events DVD and other Amazing Facts products and Your Story Hour dramatised stories are available from the Australian distributor, The Story Factory. Contact Darren or Robyn Peakall on (08) 9257 2211; (0417) 913 695; or email <info@thestoryfactory.com.au>.

Giant book sale. Attention: 80% = \$2-\$4. 4000+ books, including 10 volumes SDA Commentary, set of Testimonies, bound *Youth's Instructor* 1957-1960. Religion, E G White (2 cartons), Christian novels (adult and youth), biographies, animal stories, Bibles (adult and children), Uncle Arthur, music, lifestyle. Non-alcoholic wine. Nunawading church, Central Road, Nunawading, Vic. Tomorrow, July 16, 11 am-3 pm. Church building fund. **Make a calendar note now.**

Time to become a soul winner! Evangelistic Training Course July 23-November 26, 2006. Dynamic classes, personal and public evangelism experience, culminating in Port Macquarie campaign. (02) 6657 1175; <www.eastward.edu.au>. Eastward Missionary College, a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

South East Reunion, SA—October 20-22, 2006. It's going to be a great weekend of activities with Pastors Jim Zyderveld and Robert Porter leading out and past pastors getting historical. If you were once a part of the South East and have photographs or stories of interest, or would like further information, please contact Jeanie (08) 8735 7157; or Shari (08) 8735 9079; or email <se-reunion@hotmail.com>.

Cooranbong (NSW)—3BR home, clad, insulated, patios, sheds, refurbished, new bathroom, aircon, potbelly stove, laundry, two toilets, satellite dish, garage, two carports, fruit trees, gardens. Walk to shops, church, transport. \$A257,000 neg. Phone (0412) 734 240; email <woopiechubber@yahoo.com.au>.

Advertisements

Note: Neither the editor, Signs Publishing Company, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, \$A49.50; each additional word, \$A2.20. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 2) for contact details.

Adventist Retirement Villages, Sydney, NSW. Accommodation for those 55+ years. **Hornsby**—fully self-contained 1 BR units, walking distance to Hornsby station in a tranquil area. **Wahroonga**—luxuriously appointed 2 or 3 BR fully self-contained units in a superb bush setting with 24-hour call facilities. Phone (02) 9487 0600; <www.adventistretirementvillages.org.au>.

Children's Sabbath School leaders . . .

Are you short on resources?

Your Adventist Book Centre can help you.

Check out their

Christian Imprints

product line for . . .

- INCENTIVE DEVICES
- LEARNING ACTIVITIES
- QUIZ BOOKS
- PROGRAM HELPS

For Beginners, Kindergarten,
Primary, Junior and Teens

Adventist Book Centres . . .
here to help you!

Phone (03) 9259 2159 or email
<vicabc@adventist.org.au> (Vic ABC) to
find an Adventist Book Centre near you

20th National Christian Family Conference



Strengthening & Marriage Family Ties

Featuring International Guest Speakers

Dr William J Doherty & Dr V Bailey Gillespie

Cost: \$170 - Lunch Included

Bookings: (02) 9847 3306, jbolst@adventist.org.au

August 21, 22, 2006

Sydney Adventist Hospital, Level 2 Conference Room, 187 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga NSW
Sponsored by the Adventist Institute of Family Relations



Great Rates

ACF Investments (02) 9989 8355

For all home or investment loans phone Sponsor a Child (SAC) Home Loans. Your mortgage can sponsor a child through Asian Aid, and fight poverty. Phone Carl Ginger 1800 722 734; <www.sachomeloans.com.au>.

Christian Satellite—receive 8 Christian channels 24/7. Equipment and full installation from \$A390. DIY kits from \$A255 + cables and shipping. For more information or to order today visit our website <www.christiansatellite.com.au>; or phone (03) 9704 2266.

Data projectors, screens, DVDs VCRs, PA systems etc. SDAs committed to lower prices for SDA churches, schools etc. Ask for Trish at Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <greenfields@netconnect.com.au>.

San graduates dinner—August 27, 2006. All past nursing students and Sydney Adventist Hospital graduates are invited to attend (with partner or friend). For details contact SAH Foundation, phone (02) 9487 9405; or email <foundation@sah.org.au>.

9th annual ADRA sacred concert—Saturday, July 22, 2006. This year's concert promises to be superb and one that you will not want to miss! Gifted national performers will delight you with exquisite songs and fine music. There are two convenient locations: Parramatta church, Sabbath afternoon 3.00 pm. Wahroonga church, 7.30 pm (televised). Seated by 7.20 pm. No entry after 7.25 pm sharp! Be early! Seats will fill quickly. Offering collected. Proceeds to ADRA.

Books wanted—libraries from deceased estates. Special interest in Spirit of Prophecy, all Bible commentaries, reference books and public evangelism. Herb Kersten Evangelistic Alliance (HKEA), Suite 244, 85 Grattan Street, Carlton Vic 3053; email <hkea@hkea.org.au>; web <www.hkea.org.au>.

Receive the Hope Channel and 3ABN NOW! Complete satellite kit for just \$A265 + freight. Full instructions for DIY installation or installers available. Australia only. Rural Electronics (02) 6361 3636; or <ruralele@bigpond.net.au>.

Finally

We would often be sorry if
our wishes were granted.

2007 Reformation Itinerary

The Australian Union Conference is planning the eighth Reformation Itinerary to begin on May 21, 2007.

Pastor Harker, who has specialised in the history of these places, will again lead this one. Visit Rome, Capri and the palace of Caesar, Florence, Pisa and the Leaning Tower, the Waldenses, parts of France, Switzerland and a day in the Alps, Germany, Czech Republic and beautiful Prague, then Wittenberg and Berlin and across to London. In Britain we travel from London to Edinburgh, St Andrews and over to Iona then back to London.

Between 10 and 15 places are available for the five-and-a-half week itinerary. The cost is estimated at \$A12,000 all inclusive—all meals, travel from capital cities in Australia, coach costs, all hotel accommodation, and entrance to all sites and even travel insurance. You need to be fit to walk sometimes for two hours or more and want to see the world and how God's hand has influenced history.

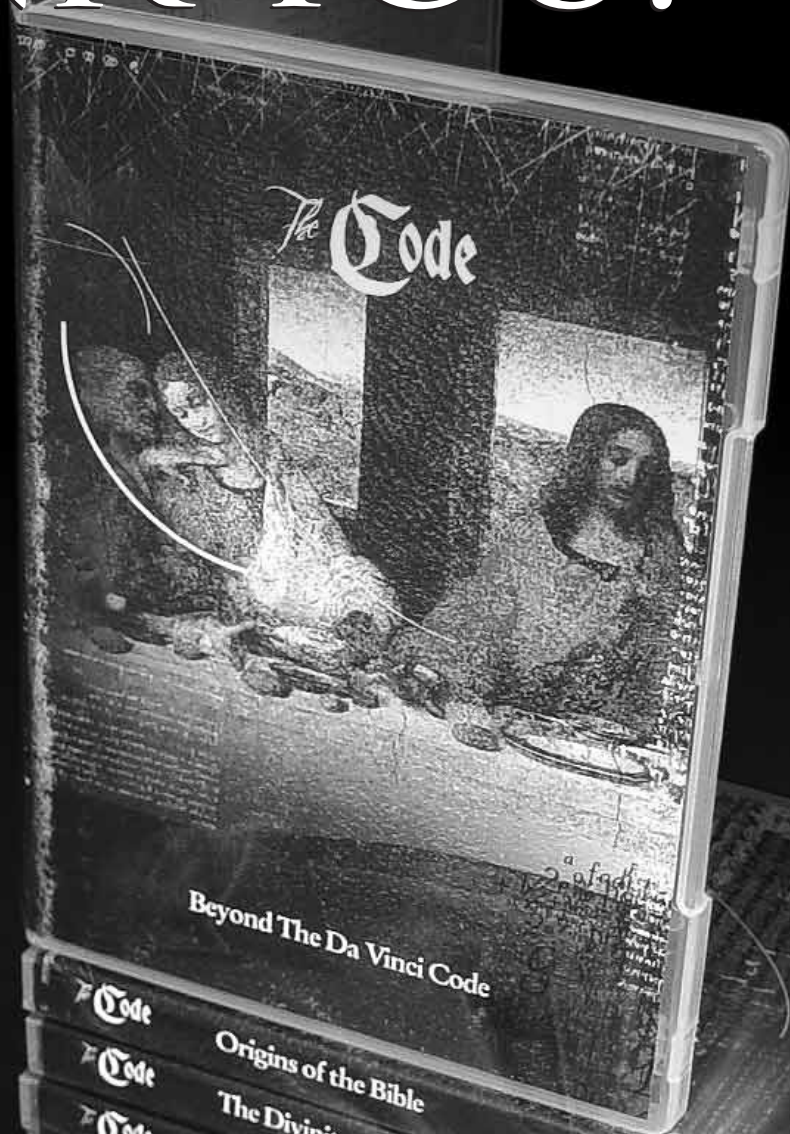
Phone the Australian Union Conference on (03) 9871 7555; or Pastor Harker on (02) 4385 8282; or email <hharker@optusnet.com.au>

THANK YOU!

FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2005

We need your continued prayers and support for our ministry in 2006.

Adventist Media's annual offering this year will be channelled directly into the funding of *The Code* project that has just recently been released to both church members and the public.



PLEASE REMEMBER ADVENTIST MEDIA'S ANNUAL OFFERING
NEXT SABBATH **JULY 22**